Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 073094 ORIGIN SNM-02

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CARACAS FOR ARNA MARTINEZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, OCON, XM

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ARGENTINE CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE

REFERENCE: BUENOS AIRES 1505

1. CONFERENCE AGENDA HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SUGGESTED CHANGES WE WOULD LIKE EMBASSY TO DISCUSS WITH DR. CAGLIOTTI. OUR BASIC AIM IS TO MAKE THIS A "HOW-TO" CONFERENCE, WHICH IS THE REASON FOR MOST SUGGESTED CHANGES. IN ADDITION TO ASCERTAINING HIS VIEWS ON CHANGES, PLEASE OBTAIN A LIST OF COUNTRIES AND SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS HE INTENDS TO INVITE.

2. SUGGESTED CHANGES:

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PAGE 02 STATE 073094

A. COULD DATE BE CHANGED TO LAST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER OR THE FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER. IN VIEW OF THE TIME NEEDED TO PLAN THE CONFERENCE, MAKE REQUESTS FOR FORMAL PRESENTATIONS, PREPARE FORMALLECTURES AND DISTRIBUTE THE FINAL LECTURES TO ALL PARTICIPANTSTHE DELAY OF A MONTH OR SO SEEMS ADVISABLE. THE TIME LOST WOULD BE COMPENSATED BY A STRUCTURED, WELL THOUGHT OUT CONFERENCE.

- B. AS NOTED ABOVE, WE WISH THIS TO BE A "HOW-TO" CONFERENCE. THE USG RECEIVES A NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR TECHNICAL MANUALS IN SPANISH ON SUCH SUBJECTS AS DEVELOPING TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, CONDUCTING DRUG ABUSE EPIDEMIOLOGIC SURVEYS AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY INFORMATION. THERE IS VERY LITTLE OF THIS INFORMATION IN SPANISH. PROVIDING THE CONFERENCE IS SUBSTANTIVELY TECHNICAL, THE PROCEEDINGS FROM SUCH A CONFERENCE COULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO ANY SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY REQUESTING SUCH TECHNICAL INFORMATION. IDEALLY DOCUMENT WOULD INCLUDE FORMAL PRESENTATION PLUS SIGNIFICANT VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONFEREES. PLEASE CABLE ESTIMATED COSTS OF PRINTING SUCH A DOCUMENT.
- C. CHANGE THE FORMAT OF THE PRESENTATION. INSTEAD OF THE ONE-HOUR LECTURES AND 1 1/2 HOUR DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION AS HAS BEEN SUGGESTED, SUGGEST THAT WE RECOMMEND TWO OR THREE 20-MINUTE FORMAL PRESENTATIONS ON THE SAME TOPIC BY VARIOUS DEMAND REDUCTION REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. 10 MINUTE DISCUSSIONS COULD FOLLOW EACH PRESENTATION. THE REMAINDER OF THE 3 HOURS COULD BE DESIGNED AS WORKSHOPS WHERE INFORMAL DISCUSSION ON THE TOPICS PRESENTED EARLIER COULD OCCUR BETWEEN THE SPEAKERS AND THE AUDIENCE.
- D. EACH SPEAKER SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO LIMIT HIS PHILOSOPHICAL VIEWS ON THE PARTICULAR TOPIC TO 5 MINUTES; THE REMAINDER OF HIS PRESENTATION ADDRESSING PRACTICAL METHODS FOR IMPLEMENTING HIS PHILOSOPHY, TREATMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 073094

APPROACH, EPIDEMIOLOGIC DESIGN, ETC. IN VIEW OF OUR PAST EXPERIENCE AT THE CARACAS CONFERENCE, LET US ASK THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION AND STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESENTING PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTING TECHNIQUES. SPEAKERS SHOULD BE ASKED TO INCLUDE IN THEIR PRESENTATIONS THE CAVEATS OR LIMITATIONS IN THE SPECIFIC APPROACH THEY ADVOCATE AS WELL AS SPECIFIC TECHNIQUES USED IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THESE LIMITATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS HAVE SUGGESTED CERTAIN TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE CONFERENCE, E.G., THE DRUG USER, STRATEGIES TO REACH HIM, SPECIFIC TREATMENTS AND PHILOSOPHIES AND OBJECTIVES OF THESE PROGRAMS. IF A SPEAKER IS TO DISCUSS STRATEGY TO REACH THE DRUG USER, HE SHOULD DEFINE WHAT HE MEANS BY THE DRUG USER, E.G., RECREATIONAL USER, COMPULSIVE USER, AND AT LEAST OUTLINE THE LIMITATIONS OF HIS PARTICULAR STRATEGY TO REACH A PARTICULAR TYPE OF DRUG USER.

E. IT IS IMPORTANT TO ASK THAT EACH SPEAKER SUBMIT IN

WRITING HIS PRESENTATION TO DR. CAGLIOTTI PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE AND TO HAVE ALL FORMAL PRESENTATIONS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL INVITED DEMAND REDUCTION CLINICIANS PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE.

F. THERE ARE OTHER TOPICS WHICH DO NOT APPEAR ON THE INITIAL LIST WHICH MIGHT BE ADDED:

A PRACTICAL PRESENTATION ON VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION TECHNIQUES;

LECTURE ON DEVELOPING CLINICAL (EVALUATION, PHARMACOLOGIC) RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES FOR USE IN THE TREATMENT SETTING.

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